# CLAIMS

**Claims 1-61 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 62 (Previously Presented)**    A method for controlling channel changes in television or digital radio having a tuner or receiver, the method for controlling channel changes comprising:

monitoring channel change commands received from a user during a zapping session during which channels are discarded;

identifying a discarded channel;

determining whether or not a program transmitted on an identified discarded channel has changed; and

preventing the tuner or receiver from tuning to the discarded channel during a remainder of the zapping session unless the determining of whether or not the program transmitted on the discarded channel has changed determines the program transmitted on the discarded channel has changed,

wherein the identifying of the discarded channel includes (i) monitoring a time that the user has viewed a channel during the zapping session, and (ii) based on the time that the user has viewed the channel, determining whether or not the channel is the discarded channel.

**Claim 63 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 62, further comprising setting a viewing time threshold used by the determining of whether or not the channel is to be discarded.

**Claim 64 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 63, wherein, if the time that the user has viewed the channel is at most the viewing time threshold, then the channel is discarded.

**Claim 65 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 63, wherein, if the time that the user has viewed the channel is at most the viewing time threshold, then the channel is retained.

**Claim 66 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 64, wherein, if the time that the user has viewed the channel is at least the viewing time threshold, then the channel is discarded.

**Claim 67 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 64, wherein, if the time that the user has viewed the channel is at least the viewing time threshold, then the channel is retained.

**Claim 68 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 64, further comprising receiving a user input that indicates the viewing time threshold.

**Claim 69 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 62, further comprising determining whether or not a program on a particular channel has changed.

**Claim 70 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 69, wherein the determining of whether or not the program on the particular channel has changed includes comparing program identifiers of a previously viewed program and a currently viewed program.

**Claim 71 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 69, wherein the determining of whether or not the program on the particular channel has changed includes:

      monitoring real time;

      identifying program scheduling information for the particular channel; and

      using the identified scheduling information and the monitored real time to determine whether or not there is a change in a currently broadcast program.

**Claim 72 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 62, further including receiving a control signal, from the user, that indicates that a channel zapping session is starting, the control signal prompting a start of monitoring channels zapped to and channels discarded.

**Claim 73 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed claim 62, further comprising receiving, from the user, a signal representing a command to stop the channel zapping session.

**Claim 74 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 62, further comprising terminating the channel zapping session if no channel change commands are received over a pre-determined time.

**Claim 75 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 62, further comprising identifying an advertisement, temporarily excluding a channel showing the advertisement from a pool of available channels, and reintroducing the excluded channel when the advertisement is finished.

**Claim 76 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 62, further comprising identifying an advertisement and showing material, including a video clip or text, associated with a program to be available for viewing when the advertisement is finished.

**Claim 77 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 76, further comprising recording a portion of a program available for viewing immediately preceding the advertisement and displaying the portion of the program to the user during the advertisement.

**Claim 78 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 77, further comprising carrying out the recording of the portion of the program for all available channels.

**Claim 79 (Previously Presented)**    The method as claimed in claim 62, further comprising:

      monitoring program changes;

      identifying a most recently provided or broadcast program; and

      presenting the most recently provided or broadcast program identified by the identifying

      of the most recently provided or broadcast program to the user in response to a channel

      change command.

**Claim 80 (Previously Presented)**     A system for controlling channel changes in television or digital radio having a tuner or receiver, the system comprising:

means for monitoring channel change commands received from a user during a zapping session during which channels are discarded;

means for identifying a discarded channel;

means for determining whether or not a program transmitted on an identified discarded channel has changed; and

means for preventing the tuner or receiver from tuning to the discarded channel during a remainder of the zapping session unless the means for determining determines that the program transmitted on the discarded channel has changed,

wherein the means for identifying includes means for (i) monitoring a time that the user has viewed a channel during the zapping session, and (ii) based on the time that the user has viewed the channel, determining whether or not the channel is the discarded channel.


**Claim 81 (Previously Presented)**     The system as claimed in claim 80, further comprising means for setting a viewing time threshold used by the means for determining whether the channel is to be discarded.


**Claim 82 (Previously Presented)**     The system as claimed in claim 81, wherein, if the time that the user has viewed the channel is at most the viewing time threshold, then the channel is discarded.

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**Claim 83 (Previously Presented)**    The system as claimed in claim 81, wherein, if the time that the user has viewed the channel is at most the viewing time threshold, then the channel is retained.

**Claim 84 (Previously Presented)**    The system as claimed in claim 81, wherein, if the time that the user has viewed the channel is at least the viewing time threshold, then the channel is discarded.

**Claim 85 (Previously Presented)**    The system as claimed in claim 81, wherein, if the time that the user has viewed the channel is at least the viewing time threshold, then the channel is retained.

**Claim 86 (Previously Presented)**    The system as claimed in claim 80, further comprising means for receiving a user input that indicates the viewing time threshold.

**Claim 87 (Previously Presented)**    The system as claimed in claim 80, further comprising means for determining whether or not a program on a particular channel has changed.

**Claim 88 (Previously Presented)**    The system as claimed in claim 87, wherein the means for determining whether or not the program on the particular channel has changed includes means for comparing program identifiers of a previously viewed channel and a program currently

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available.

**Claim 89 (Previously Presented)**    The system as claimed in claim 87, wherein the means for determining whether or not the program on the particular channel has changed is operable to:

monitor real time;

identify program scheduling information for the particular channel; and

use the identified scheduling information and the monitored real time to determine whether or not there is a change in a currently broadcast program.

**Claim 90 (Previously Presented)**    The system as claimed in claim 80, further comprising means for receiving, from the user, a control signal that indicates that a channel zapping session is starting, and means for recognizing the control signal as a zapping session identifier and for activating a means for monitoring channels zapped to and channels discarded, in response to the zapping command.

**Claim 91 (Previously Presented)**    The system as claimed in claim 80, further comprising means for receiving, from the user, a signal representing a command to stop the channel zapping session.

**Claim 92 (Previously Presented)**    The system as claimed in claim 80, further comprising means for terminating the channel zapping session if no channel change commands are received over a pre-determined time.

**Claim 93 (Previously Presented)**    The system as claimed in claim 80, further comprising a display for displaying programs.


**Claim 94 (Previously Presented)**    The system as claimed in claim 80, being adapted to receive channel change commands from a remote control.


**Claim 95 (Previously Presented)**    A computer-readable recording medium having a computer program recorded thereon, the computer program for controlling channel changes in a television or digital radio having a tuner or receiver, the computer program causing a computer to execute a method comprising:

monitoring channel change commands received from a user during a zapping session during which channels are discarded;

identifying a discarded channel;

determining whether or not a program transmitted on an identified discarded channel has changed; and

preventing the tuner or receiver from tuning to the discarded channel during a remainder of the zapping session unless the determining of whether or not the program transmitted on the discarded channel has changed determines that the program transmitted on the discarded channel has changed,

wherein the identifying of the discarded channel includes (i) monitoring a time that the user has viewed a channel during the zapping session, and (ii) based on the time that the user has

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viewed the channel, determining whether or not the channel is the discarded channel.

**Claim 96 (Previously Presented)**    The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 95, further comprising setting a viewing time threshold used by the determining of whether or not the channel is to be discarded.

**Claim 97 (Previously Presented)**    The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 96, wherein, if the time that the user has viewed the channel is at most the viewing time threshold, then the channel is discarded.

**Claim 98 (Previously Presented)**    The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 96, wherein, if the time that the user has viewed the channel is at most the viewing time threshold, then the channel is retained.

**Claim 99 (Previously Presented)**    The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 96, wherein, if the time that the user has viewed the channel is at least the viewing time threshold, then the channel is discarded.

**Claim 100 (Previously Presented)**   The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 96, wherein, if the time that the user has viewed the channel is at least the viewing time threshold, then the channel is retained.

**Claim 101 (Previously Presented)**   The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 95, further comprising receiving a user input that indicates the viewing time threshold.

**Claim 102 (Previously Presented)**   The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 95, further comprising determining whether or not a program on a particular channel has changed.

**Claim 103 (Previously Presented)**   The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 102, wherein the determining of whether or not the program on the particular channel has changed includes comparing program identifiers of a previously viewed program and a program currently available.

**Claim 104 (Previously Presented)**   The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 102, wherein the identifying of whether or not the program on the particular channel has changed includes:

     monitoring real time;

     identifying program scheduling information for the particular channel; and

     using the identified scheduling information and the monitored real time to determine whether or not there is a change in a currently broadcast program.

**Claim 105 (Previously Presented)**   The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 95, further comprising receiving a control signal, from the user, that indicates that a

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channel zapping session is starting, the control signal prompting a start of monitoring channels zapped to and channels discarded.

**Claim 106 (Previously Presented)**   The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 95, further comprising receiving, from a user, a signal representing a command to stop the channel zapping session.

**Claim 107 (Previously Presented)**   The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 95, further comprising terminating the channel zapping session if no channel change commands are received over a pre-determined time.

**Claim 108 (Previously Presented)**   A set top box that includes a computer program as defined in claim 95.

**Claim 109 (Previously Presented)**   A television system that includes a computer program as defined in claim 95.

**Claim 110 (Previously Presented)**   A digital radio that includes a computer program as defined in claim 95.